555 Finnish society thus presents a rare, uniform picture, and mobility within the society is greater than in any other European country. Many of the most prominent persons in public life have risen from "lowly cottages," and perhaps as many with favorable family connections have suck into oblivion. Birth, wealth and education are today not a sure guarantee [574] for success. The internal controversies in Finnish society are not economic, but political, with farmers, workers and intellectuals representing different interests; party connections may place a person in a position for which he lacks the necessary qualifications.

575 883 It is no wonder tha societies and youth organizations holding differing political views are among the most prominent in the country.